

Child Well-being and Household Structure Module: Instructions to insert into the DHS-8 Interviewer's Manual

Additional Questions to the Household Roster for the Child Well-being and Household Structure Module

Columns 12-15: SURVIVORSHIP AND RESIDENCE OF BIOLOGICAL MOTHER AND FATHER

For all children who are 0-17 years old, we want to know whether their biological parents are listed in the Household Schedule. This information will be used to measure the prevalence of orphanhood and child fostering and to identify vulnerable children in the population. For everyone age 18 years and older, the CAPI program will not allow you to record an answer in Columns 12 through 15C and they will appear blank.

First, ask whether the child's biological mother is alive (Column 12). By "biological" we mean the woman who gave birth to the child. In many cultures, people consider other people's children whom they are raising their own, especially children of their husband or sisters, etc. So, you should be certain that the respondent understands that you are asking about the child's biological mother.

If the child's biological mother is dead, in Column 12A, ask what year the child's biological mother died. For children whose parents are dead, it is important to know when the parent died in order to know how long the child has lived without their parent. If the respondent does not know in what year the child's biological mother died, record '9998' and proceed to Column 14.

If the mother is still alive, ask the question in Column 13 to determine whether she lives in the household or is a visitor. If the mother does live in the household or is a visitor, ask who she is (she should be listed on the schedule if she lives in the household or is a visitor) and enter/select her Line Number in Column 13. If the child's biological mother is still alive but does not live in the household and is not a visitor, enter/select '00' in the boxes in Column 13. Column 13 will be skipped if the child's biological mother is no longer alive or the respondent is not sure if the mother is alive.

Follow the same procedure for the child's biological father—Columns 14-15—as you do for the biological mother.

Columns 15A-15D: CARE GIVERS FOR NEVER-MARRIED CHILDREN UNDER AGE 18

Columns 15C-15D seek to identify who is the primary caregiver for children who do not live with their biological parents. These questions are relevant for never-married children age 0-17 who are usual residents in the household. In Column

15A, for children age 15-17, the CAPI system will check the marital status of the child as recorded in Column 8. If the child has ever been married (codes 1, 2 or 3), 15B-15D will not be asked. Column 15B checks if the child is a usual resident of the household, and, if yes, whether or not they live with their biological parents.

If the child does not live with either biological parent, the respondent will be asked to name the child's caregiver in Column 15C. A caregiver is defined as a person who lives with the child, who provides daily care to the child, and who acts as the child's 'parent' whether they are the biological parent or not. A caregiver can be a family member such as a grandparent or older sibling. It includes informal arrangements in which the caregiver does not have legal responsibility for the child. The child's caregiver may not be the same person who provides most of the financial support for the child.

If the child does not have a caregiver, record '95' and skip to Column 16. Column 15D asks for the relationship of the primary caregiver to the child. The relationship codes for Column 15D are shown below the Household Schedule.

[X.] Section [CW]: Child Well-being and Household Structure Module

Children who are more exposed to risks than their peers are considered vulnerable. They can be vulnerable because of deprivation (food, education, parental care, etc....), exploitation, abuse, neglect, armed conflicts, infection with HIV or other causes. Parents provide the main social protection for children; thus, absence or death of even one of the parents can make a child vulnerable.

The Child Well-being and Household Structure (CW) module concerns children who are vulnerable because one or both biological parents who are alive, do not live with them. The purpose of the module is to understand the duration of separation for the child and parent(s), and to collect information on the frequency and nature of interaction between the parent(s) and the child or the household the child lives in.

Qs.CW01-CW05: IDENTIFICATION OF ELIGIBLE CHILDREN

Qs.CW05-CW29 concern children (1) who are 0-17 years of age, (2) who are usual resident members of the household, and (3) whose biological mother, father or both biological mother and father are alive but do not usually live in the household.

The purpose of questions CW01 through CW04 is to identify children who are eligible for questions Qs.CW05-CW29. When using CAPI, the system will run appropriate programs in the background and identify all children who are eligible for these questions.

Qs.CW01-CW04 are presented here to help you visualize how eligible children are identified:

Q.CW01: uses responses provided in Columns 5 and 7 to identify children age 0-17 years who usually live in the household.

Q.CW02: checks responses recorded in Columns 13 and 15 and selects from among children age 0-17 years who usually live in the household, those whose biological mothers or fathers are not listed in the Household Schedule; meaning that the biological mother or father is neither a usual resident of nor a visitor to the household.

Q.CW03: for children age 0-17 years who usually live in the household and whose biological mother or father are listed in the Household Schedule, Q.CW03 uses information provided in Columns 13 and 15 to identify those whose mothers or fathers do not usually live in the household but happen to be listed in the Household Schedule because they are visitors.

Q.CW04 provides a summary list of children identified through Qs. CW01-CW03 and the whereabouts of their biological mothers and fathers. There are three possible statuses of the biological parents:

- 1) USUALLY LIVES ELSEWHERE: The mother or the father is alive but is not listed as a usual resident of this household in the Household Schedule. Two cases are possible: first, the mother/father is alive but is not listed in the Household Schedule (Q.13/15 is '00'), or second, the mother/father is listed in the Household Schedule, but only as a visitor (on the line number corresponding to the *biological parent*, Q.5 is code '2');
- 2) USUALLY LIVES IN THIS HOUSEHOLD: The mother or the father is listed in the household as a usual resident—on the line number corresponding to the *biological parent*, Q.5 is code '1'; or
- 3) DEAD: The mother/father the father has died, or their survival status is unknown (Q.13/15 is code '2' or code '8').

Q.CW05-CW06: IDENTIFICATION OF THE CHILD AND INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT

Qs.CW05-CW29 will be repeated for each eligible child. Q. CW05 identifies the first/next child to be asked about by his/her name and household line number. For each child, you will start by reading Q. CW06 to the respondent to inform her/him of your intention of asking some questions about the child. You will then ask all relevant questions for this child before moving on to the next eligible child. Make sure the respondent understands what child you are referring to by reading the name of the child.

Q.CW07: FILTER FOR MOTHERS LIVING ELSEWHERE

The CW module is organized in two sections: a series of questions about mothers living elsewhere (CW08-CW17), and a series of questions about fathers living elsewhere (CW19-CW28). Children identified as eligible for the CW module could

be eligible because their mother lives elsewhere, or their father lives elsewhere, or both parents live elsewhere. Therefore, for each child included in this module, it is necessary to check if the mother lives elsewhere before proceeding with the questions about the mother. The CAPI program uses the filter in Q.CW07 to skip children over the questions about the mother if their mother lives with them or is dead.

If a child lives with their biological mother, we can assume that the child is eligible for the CW module because their biological father lives elsewhere. Therefore, if the child lives with their biological mother, the CAPI program skips directly to Q.CW19.

Q.CW08: DURATION OF CHILD-MOTHER SEPARATION

The purpose of this question is to determine how long it has been since the child and the biological mother lived together. Cases where the mother lives elsewhere but she or her child come to visit and they spend a few nights together should not be counted as living together.

The information is recorded in months or years, depending on duration of separation:

- If it has been less than a year since they lived together, select '1' and write the answer in MONTHS.
- If it has been one year or more than one year since they lived together, select '2' and write the answer in COMPLETED YEARS.
- If they have NEVER LIVED TOGETHER, select "995"

If the respondent cannot recall the exact time that has elapsed since the child and the mother separated, try to probe. See if the respondent knows a firm month/year when the separation occurred or if they know how old the child was when they stopped living together.

Example: If the respondent knows the child is currently 7 years old and stopped living with her mother when she was 4 years old, record "03" in the box for years.

Example: If the respondent knows the child stopped living with her mother in February 2015 and you are conducting the interview in January 2021, record "05" in the box for years.

Record the duration of separation in Q.CW08, even if it is only a best estimate. However, in the case that neither the respondent nor anyone else in the household can provide the information, record "998" for DON'T KNOW.

If the instruction in Q. CW08 is followed correctly, you should **never record '12' months or more than 12 months and you should never record or '00' years.**

Q.CW09: CHILD'S CONTACT WITH MOTHER

The purpose of Q.CW09 is to establish how often a child and his or her biological mother living elsewhere get in contact. By contact, we mean face-to-face interaction, use of phone for calling and/or texting, communication through email, social networks etc.... It does not matter what means they use to communicate. The question is simply about how often the child sees or communicates with her biological mother who lives elsewhere. Make sure that you read the entire question before accepting her answer.

Qs.CW10-CW12: FILTER FOR QUESTIONS ALREADY ASKED

While the answer to Qs.CW08-CW09 can differ for children of the same mother, the answers to Qs.CW13-CW17 will be the same for all children who have the same mother. In order to avoid unnecessary repetition of these questions for subsequent children of the same mother, Qs.CW10-CW12 ascertain whether or not Qs.CW13-CW17 have already been asked for another child who has the same biological mother as the child you are asking the questions about.

In the filter Q.CW10, the CAPI program will run a series of checks in the background that will review the information already collected during the interview and determine if this information is sufficient to know whether Qs.CW13-CW17 have already been asked for another child who has the same biological mother.

- If the logic checks in the CAPI program determine that Qs.CW13-CW17 have not yet been asked, the CAPI program will display Q.CW13.
- If the logic checks in the CAPI program determine that Qs.CW13-CW17 have already been asked, the CAPI program will keep track of which other child has the same biological mother and will skip to Q.CW18.
- If the information collected so far in the interview is not enough for the CAPI program to determine whether Qs.CW13-CW17 have already been asked, it will display Q.CW11.

The response to Q.CW11 will be used to determine if Qs.CW13-CW17 have been asked for another child with the same biological mother as the child you are asking about.

- If the child you are asking about has the same biological mother as another child for whom Qs. CW13-CW17 have already been asked, proceed to Q.CW12, ask which child has the same biological mother and record that **child's** line number from the Household Schedule.
- If the child does not have the same biological mother as another child for whom Qs. CW13-CW17 have already been asked, proceed to ask Q.CW13.

Q.CW13: BIOLOGICAL MOTHER'S MARITAL STATUS

Q.CW13 asks about current marital status of the child's biological mother living elsewhere. The coding category 'married or living together' includes both mothers

who are legally married and mothers in informal unions. If the respondent reports that the child's mother is single, divorced, separated, widowed, never married, or never lived together with a man as if married, you will record "2" for NO.

Q.CW14: HUSBAND/PARTNER OF BIOLOGICAL MOTHER

If in Q.CW13 the respondent tells you that the child's biological mother is married or living with a man as if married, you will ask Q.CW14 as follow-up question to know whether the mother's current husband/partner is the biological father or of the child.

Q.CW15: MONEY OR GOODS FROM BIOLOGICAL MOTHER

The purpose of Q.CW15 is to determine if the child's biological mother sends money or goods such as food, clothes, or school materials to the household where the child lives. It does not matter how often, how much, or whom she sends money or goods to. Record "1" for "YES" if the respondent tells you the mother sends money or goods to the household, regardless of the reason.

Q.CW16: MONEY OR GOODS TO BIOLOGICAL MOTHER

The objective of Q.CW16 is to determine if the child's biological mother receives money or goods from the household where the child lives. Again, it does not matter how often, how much, who sends the money/goods or the reason for sending the money or goods.

Q.CW17: BIOLOGICAL MOTHER'S PLACE OF RESIDENCE

In Q. CW17 we ask about the place where the child's biological mother lives. We want to know if she lives in a household located in the same district as the child, a household in a different district, an INSTITUTION (e.g. hospitals, jails) in the same country, or in another country. Record the place where she usually lives.

Q.CW18: FILTER FOR FATHERS LIVING ELSEWHERE

Among children identified in Q.CW04, Qs.CW19-CW28 will be asked only about children whose biological fathers live elsewhere. CAPI program uses the filter in Q.CW18 to filter out children whose biological fathers live with them or is dead.

Q.CW19: DURATION OF CHILD-FATHER SEPARATION

Q.CW19 seeks is to determine how long it has been since the child and the biological father lived together. Follow the same instructions as in Q.CW08 when asking this question and recording the response.

Q.CW20: CHILD'S CONTACT WITH FATHER

The purpose of Q.CW20 is to establish how often a child and his or her biological father living elsewhere communicate. The same instructions provided in Q.CW09 for the mother apply for this question as well.

Qs.CW21-CW23: FILTER FOR QUESTIONS ALREADY ASKED

While the answer to Qs. CW19-CW20 can differ for children of the same father, the answers to Qs. CW24-CW28 will be the same for all children who have the same father. In order to avoid unnecessary repetition of these questions for subsequent children of the same father, Qs. CW21-CW23 ascertain whether or not Qs.CW24-CW28 have already been asked for another child who has the same biological father as the child you are asking the questions about.

In the filter Q.CW21, the CAPI program will run a series of checks in the background that will review the information already collected during the interview and determine if this information is sufficient to know whether Qs.CW24-CW28 have already been asked for another child who has the same biological father.

- If the logic checks in the CAPI program determine that Qs. CW24-CW28 have not yet been asked, the CAPI program will display Q.CW24.
- If the logic checks in the CAPI program determine that Qs.CW24-CW28 have already been asked, the CAPI program will keep track of which other child has the same biological father and will skip to Q.CW29.
- If the information collected so far in the interview is not enough for the CAPI program to determine whether Qs.CW24-CW28 have already been asked, it will display Q.CW22.

The response to Q.CW22 will be used to determine if Qs.CW24-CW28 have been asked for another child with the same biological father as the child you are asking about.

- If the child you are asking about has the same biological father as another child for whom Qs. CW24-CW28 have already been asked, proceed to Q.CW23, ask which child has the same biological father and record that **child's** line number from the Household Schedule.
- If the child does not have the same biological mother as another child for whom Qs.CW24-CW28 have already been asked, proceed to ask Q.CW24.

Qs.CW24-CW25: BIOLOGICAL FATHER'S MARITAL STATUS

Qs.CW24 and Q.CW25 seek to determine the current marital status of the child's biological father living elsewhere. Q.CW25 asks about the current marital status of the child's biological father. However, this question will not be necessary if in Q.CW14, the respondent has reported that the man the child's biological mother is married to or living with is his/her biological father. CAPI program will use filter in Q.CW24 to check response in Q.CW14 and then move to the appropriate question.

Q.CW26: MONEY OR GOODS FROM BIOLOGICAL FATHER

The purpose of Q.CW26 is to determine if the child's biological father sends money or goods such as food, clothes, or school materials to the household where the child lives. It does not matter how often, how much, or whom he sends money or goods to. Record "1" for "YES" if the respondent tells you the father sends money or goods to the household regardless of the reason.

Q.CW27: MONEY OR GOODS TO BIOLOGICAL FATHER

The objective of Q.CW27 is to determine if the child's biological father receives money or goods from the household where the child lives. Again, it does not matter how often, how much, who sends the money/goods or the reason for sending the money or goods.

Q.CW28: BIOLOGICAL FATHER'S PLACE OF RESIDENCE

In Q.CW28 we ask about the place where the child's biological father lives. We want to know if he lives in a household located in the same district as the child, a household in a different district, an INSTITUTION (e.g. hospitals, jails) in the same country, or in another country. Record the place where he usually lives.

Q.CW29: FILTER FOR NEXT CHILD/NEXT SECTION

Once you reach Q.CW29, the CAPI program will check if there is another eligible child and, if there is one, will go back to Q.CW05 to start this series of questions over again for the next child. Otherwise, it will proceed to the next section of the Household Questionnaire.